

REMARKS

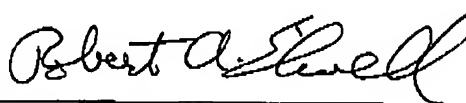
This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2005. Given the Examiner's recognition of the presence of patentable subject matter and recognizing the extensive Preliminary Amendment included with the original filing, Applicant intends to address patentability issues raised by the Examiner in future prosecution of divisional and/or continuing applications and does not concede such issues at this time. With this amendment, claims 2, 6, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 52 and 57 are amended and claim 1 is canceled without prejudice. Claims 45, 47 - 49, 51, 60, and 61 presently are withdrawn from consideration. Applicant notes that the rejected status of claims 8, 9, 29 and 30 has been omitted from the Office Action Summary, however, these claims have been subsequently addressed within the Office Action.

In the Office Action, claims 18 and 21 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 1 from which they originally depended. With this amendment, claims 18 and 21 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled base claim 1. Claims 19, 23 and 24, also were indicated as allowable if rewritten. However, the three claims now depend from the two rewritten claims and thus should also be allowable at this time. Additionally, claims 2, 6, 14, 15, 26 and 28 have been amended to depend from the allowable if rewritten claim 21 and therefore should also be allowable at this time.

Claims 52 and 57 have also been amended to include limitations present in rewritten claim 21 and thus should also be allowable as amended. Further, claims 54 and 55 depend from rewritten claim 52 and therefore should be allowable as well.

Consideration in view of the foregoing Amendment is respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance and a notice of allowance is requested. If there are issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this patent application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,
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